

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01066 201259Z

21

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

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R 201224Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3021

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

CONFIDENTIAL DAMASCUS 1066

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ELTN, JO, LE, SA, SY, US

SUBJECT: TAPLINE LETTER TO SYRIAN GOVERNMENT

REF: A. BEIRUT 3387; B. BEIRUT 3400

1. TAPLINE'S SYRIAN REP, MAHMOUD EL-YOUSSEF, PROVIDED
AMBASSADOR MARCH 18 WITH COPY OF TAPLINE MARCH 17 LETTER TO
SARG PM AYOUBI; AS MARKED ON LETTER, COPIES ALSO GIVEN TO
SARG MINISTER OF FINANCE EL-SHARIF AND MINISTRY OF
PETROLEUM AND MINERAL RESOURCES MUSTAFA. YOUSSEF ALSO
MENTIONED HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER AND LEFT COPY OF LETTER
WITH PRESIDENT'S POLITICAL ADVISER, ADIB DAOUDI.

2. LETTER IS SIMILAR TO THAT TRANSMITTED IN REF B. FIRST
PARA IS SAME EXCEPT LAST TWO SENTENCES RE OIL DELIVERIES
IN JORDAN AND LEBANON OMITTED. SECOND PARA IS SAME DOWN
THROUGH "NOW AND IN THE FUTURE." THEN FOLLOWING ADDED:
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"IF SUCH A SOLUTION IS NOT REACHED IN THE NEAR FUTURE,

THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TRANSIT COUNTRIES WOULD NO LONGER BE ABLE TO DEPEND ON TRANSIT AND RELATED PAYMENTS." NEXT THREE PARAS RE MEDRECO, SIDON EXPERTS AND OIL FROM OTHER SOURCES FOR LEBANON OMITTED. LAST PARA IS SAME.

3. EL-YOUSSEF SAID HE HAD RECEIVED NO REACTION AT TIME OF DELIVERY FROM MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND HAD NOT MET PERSONALLY WITH PRIME MINISTER. MINFINANCE HAD ASKED TAPLINE TO FURNISH DETAILS OF CONTRACT AND EXPLANATION WHY FULL CESSION OPERATIONS WOULD NOT BE BREACH OF CONTRACT. EL-YOUSSEF FELT THIS WAS MERELY STALLING TACTIC. EL-YOUSSEF FOUND DAOUDI THE MOST SENSITIVE TO POLITICAL ASPECTS OF ISSUE BUT DOUBTED PRESIDENCY WOULD TAKE ACTION UNTIL LETTER REACHED IT THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS.

MURPHY

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750098-0358
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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To: STATE
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